S 8340-3A

Washington LABOR MARKET

June 1992

Washington State
Employment Security
Vernon E. Stoner
Commissioner

Prepared by the
Labor Market And
Economic Analysis Branch
(206) 438-4800
Gary Bodeutsch
Director

In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

Highlights

Whoops ... Back To Square One

Washington's economy slowed again in May. Seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment slipped over the month to an average roughly coincident with that of the fourth quarter after what amounted to a brief rally coming into the year. At this juncture it would appear that the blip in the winter months was more a weather phenomenon than anything else. And the underlying state of the economy has been essentially flat since last fall.

Certainly, weather has played havoc with the numbers this year. The normal seasonal pattern was clipped on both ends as mild temperatures impacted the level of outdoor activity. It also accelerated the timing in agriculture and basically advanced the recreation and tourist season in the

Volume 16, Number 6

state. As a result, any statistical adjustment attempting to take account of the *usual* month-to-month fluctuations in these data would logically give off a somewhat sharper than true reading.

Then again, the outlook for 1992 all along was expected to be muted. The state on balance managed to largely skirt the national recession and, correspondingly, any *pickup* generated by a quickened growth rate nationally was projected to be modest at best. The first quarter, indeed, registered a goodly increase in the pace of economic activity in the U.S. with real GDP rising at the fastest clip in three years. However, more recent signs point to a stall and perhaps a portion of that on-again off-again pattern is showing up locally.

Other factors are also at play. Corporate downsizing has become commonplace. Employers still remain skeptical of the economy. The high cost of medical benefits and other employer costs are tempering hiring decisions. An increasing service-oriented economy is making for less cyclical movement in the overall job market. And the go-go spending years of the 1980s have given way to a much more cautious attitude on the part of consumers in the 1990s. Each to some degree is acting to restrain the overall rate of job growth.

Nonetheless, the short-term outlook is basically unchanged. Both the state and the nation are assumed to experience some degree of pickup in the rate of job growth in the second half. Low interest rates are seen as the principal spur. But progress even well into next year is destined to be slow and spotty rather than anything that smacks at close to a normal rebound.

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Washington's unemployment rate dropped fractionally in May on a seasonally adjusted basis from 6.8 percent to 6.7 percent of the civilian work force. This marked the second monthly decline in a row for the statewide jobless measure after two years of near steady increase. The rate peaked in

March at 7.8 percent, turned about abruptly in April, and then proceeded to drift lower in May. Even two months are chancy when it comes to announcing an actual trend. However, the fact that the falloff continued for two months in a row at least gives some credence to the prospect that the worst on the unemployment front for this cycle may now have passed.

So how does one correlate a lackluster employment picture with a declining unemployment situation? One is a matter of timing. Pulling workers off the unemployment rolls is a setting which typically lags the economy. And the state began growing again beginning in the fourth quarter of last year. This has been a period also in which the employment pattern has been a series of fits and starts. And the seasonal impacts affecting agriculture and the self-employed (which are not included in the nonfarm wage and salary data) are out of sync this year.

In addition, some of the employment easing is due directly to layoffs in aerospace which began in October of 1991 and picked up speed in 1992. To date, employment in the industry has come down by roughly 4,000. Boeing's own estimate is that half the number has been accomplished through attrition, which would not show up on the jobless rolls. And, finally, population growth of the state has generally slowed based on current estimates, causing less pressure from migration on the state's labor force.

Resident Civilian Labor Force
Employment and Unemployment in Washington State

	May 1992 *Preliminary*	Apr 1992 *Revised*	May 1991
Seasonally Adjusted:			
State Unemployment Rate	6.7%	6.8%	6.1%
National Unemployment Rate	7.5%	7.2%	6.8%
Not Seasonally Adjusted:			
Resident Civilian Labor Force	2,620,100	2,599,900	2,486,800
Employment	2,450,700	2,420,400	2,340,700
Unemployment	169,400	179,500	146,100
Unemployment Rate	6.5%	6.9%	5.9%

Source: Employment Security Department; Bureau of Labor Statistics

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Washington's nonfarm wage and salary employment heightened in May by 17,000 workers. The average for the month was roughly 20,000. Movement was purely seasonal in nature with the exception of a 3,500 blip in government caused by one-day staffing for the state's first Presidential primary. The gain would have been even smaller without this add on. Both construction (+3,800) and trade (+4,600) added significantly to payrolls over the month with lesser additions coming in services (+1,500). Those sectors associated with tourism, in particular, stood out: job gains of 1,000 were posted at hotels and lodging places with 3,300 added at local eating and drinking establishments during the month.

On the flip side were losses in finance (-200) and personal (-300) and management services (-300). The latter can be traced to one single event: a breather in federal income tax accounting work following the April 15th filing deadline. The former is more nebulous but partially reflects additional fallout resulting from the union of Seattle First and Security Pacific banks - the state's two biggest commercial banking entities.

Changing Faces, Changing Places

Corporate restructuring was also the root cause behind job losses in general retailing (-400) and pulp and paper manufacturing (-300). Each saw the departure of a major player in May: the venerable Frederick and Nelson department store in Seattle and the historic Weyerhaeuser Pulp Mill in Everett. Both succumbed to the sign of the times and both heralded the passing of an era of sorts within their respective areas.

Meanwhile, cutbacks continued over the month in aerospace. The industry job count dropped by 800 in May as Boeing proceeded to trim payrolls toward a goal of 6,500 for the year as a whole. Roughly half the targeted number had been extracted in the first five months. And the balance is expected in the months ahead. If fully realized, employment going into 1993 would register roughly 108,000 - still high by historical standards but lower than any time in the past three years.

Those industries gaining workers in May included food processing (+500) and lumber and wood products (+500). Again, the pace was slower than expected. But in the case of seasonal industries such as these, timing was off. And for lumber and wood products, available timber supply is acting as a further constraint. Both public and private lands are being impacted to varying degree by the spotted owl. The industry in general is operating in an environment with higher national housing starts (its major market) but less than last year's level of output and employment.

Back To The Average

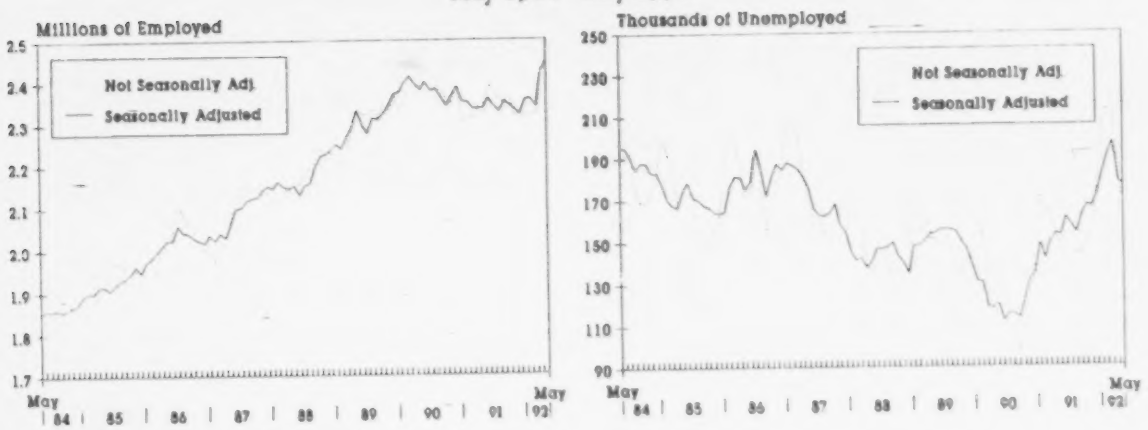
Washington's nonfarm wage and salary employment count registered 18,500 workers higher than a year before in May. The margin drifted lower over the month as has been the case ever since the first of the year when the spread measured an outsized 46,000. But comparisons at that time were arbitrarily inflated and the current period reflects a return to something closer to reality. It further substantiates a *blip* in the early months which has now come back to something close to the average coming into 1992.

Those sectors showing substantial gains for the year are basically the same ones which have led the economy in the recent months. Growth in services (+13,400) and state and local government (+10,900) remains a major underpinning in the region at a time when strength in the basic goods-producing sectors has slackened.

Manufacturing was off by 5,000 workers over the year in May. The bulk of that shortfall has crested in two industries: aerospace (-3,300) and shipbuilding (-1,300). But losses have also come to a lesser degree in lumber and wood products (-400), primary and fabricated metals (1,100), and industrial equipment and machinery (-900). At the same time, countervailing gains have been posted in a number of the state's principal nondurable goods industries, notably food processing (+1,000), textiles and apparel (+700), and chemicals and allied products (+400). It would appear that these divergent trends within the state's basic industrial core are destined to continue for

awhile yet until aerospace stabilizes and the national economy gathers some steam.

Washington State Total Resident Employment and Unemployment
May 1984 - May 1992



Source: Employment Security Department

AREA TRENDS

Shifting Tides

In the late-1980s, the Seattle-Everett economy was generating upwards of two-thirds of the state's total employment growth. Job gains in aerospace and construction and further throughout the entire service and trade sectors of the economy were concentrated heavily within Washington's largest metropolitan area. Pressures on infrastructure mounted. And unemployment dropped to lows not seen since the late-1960s during another period aptly named the ***Boeing Boom***.

But times have changed. The present period shows no growth in nonfarm wage and salary jobs over the year in the Seattle metropolitan area. It has been the second and third tier of urban centers which have stepped to the fore. Tacoma and Spokane registered 1.5 percent and 2.9 percent above a year ago, respectively, in May. However, job growth in the high 3 to 5 percent range has come to characterize the economies of Olympia, Bremerton, Yakima, and the Tri-Cities. The balance of the state was up only 1 percent.

Unemployment Mirrors The Average

Unemployment in the metropolitan areas averaged 6.1 percent of the work force in May, down from 6.4 percent in April. The not seasonally adjusted statewide average measured 6.5 percent. Seasonal gains pulled both the timber-dependent areas and all of eastern Washington down by a full percentage point over the month to 9.7 percent and 7.6 percent, respectively. But only eastern Washington - heavily ag-oriented - is evidencing a jobless rate slightly less than a year ago. The statewide average is higher by roughly half a percentage point.

Unemployment Rates by Geographic Areas
State of Washington

Areas	May 1992	Apr 1992	May 1991
Washington State Total	6.5%	6.9%	5.9%
Metropolitan Areas	6.1%	6.4%	5.4%
Log & Lumber Areas	9.7%	10.8%	9.1%
All Western WA Areas	6.1%	6.4%	5.4%
All Eastern WA Areas	7.6%	8.6%	7.7%

Source: Employment Security Department

INDUSTRY NOTES

Over There...Over There

Exports of goods made in Washington jumped 22 percent last year to a record $30 billion - a third of the state's estimated total output of goods and services. International sales of Washington products grew $5.3 billion in 1991 fueled by high demand, an advantageous location with respect to serving burgeoning markets in Asia and Europe, and a U.S. weak dollar. Shipments of transportation equipment, the fastest growing category with $19 billion in sales, accounted for approximately two-thirds of the increase. The remainder was led by a combination of agricultural products, notably apples, wheat, and potatoes; primary metals; processed foods, and a mix of diversified manufactured products across the board.

Soviets Swell The Metals Market

The collapse of the Soviet Union has led to a dumping of metals, including aluminum and platinum, on world markets. An estimated 1 million tons of aluminum was

moved from inventory to sales in the past year, pushing world prices down from 75 cents per pound in 1990 to 60 cents a pound in 1991 and to around 57 cents currently. The results are pressuring Northwest producers whose electrical energy rates with the Bonneville Power Administration are tied specifically to the prevailing market price of aluminum. Plants in the Pacific Northwest produce 43 percent of the U.S. supply and employ about 10,000 workers. Analysts do not expect a repeat of the outpouring this year. And in the meanwhile, the industry is simply marking time.

Buyouts And Mergers Leave Some On The Cutting Edge

Pending merger of Puget Sound Bank with Key Bank could cause as many as 500 workers to lose their jobs. Much of the cutback is expected to be accomplished by attrition. Duplicate divisions will be combined, including international banking, marketing, and human resources, and some overlapping branches of the two banks will likely be closed. The reapplication and posting of jobs could extend into September.

Another threatened 375-worker job loss is coming out of the buyout of Pay 'N Save's 124-store chain by Pay Less Drugs. Corporate and regional headquarters staff in West Seattle and Auburn are affected. At the same time, Pay 'N Pak, with 300 employees, was ordered into liquidation by the U.S. bankruptcy court. The Kent-based home improvement chain has been operating in Chapter 11 bankruptcy status since September.

NATIONAL INDICATORS

Manufacturing Proceeds To Proceed

According to the National Association of Purchasing Managers, the nation's manufacturing output continued to expand in May for the fourth consecutive month. The overall index surged to 56.3 percent from 51.3 percent a month before. A reading over 50 percent is considered positive. Improvement was broad-based, indicating some strengthening

in consumer demand. Moreover, export orders were also up over the month.

Spending Up, But Sooo... Slowww....

Personal income and spending rose modestly in May, clearly less than needed to give the economy a shot in the arm. Income from wages, salaries, and other sources climbed 0.3 percent while spending rose 0.5 percent. The growth in monthly income was the fourth in a row despite lower subsidy payments to farmers and a drop in interest rates on consumer savings. The spending gain, encouragingly, was fueled by a pickup in demand for big-ticket items, particularly automobiles. But both the income and spending increases for the month measured less than half the pace posted early in the year.

Looks Like What You've Got Is What You'll Get

The government's chief economic forecasting gauge continued its string of small increases in the month of May. The index of leading indicators rose 0.6 percent over the month after rising 0.3 percent in April and 0.4 percent in March. Certainly, the fact that the index has risen for three consecutive months is good news. What is needed is a little more *oomph*.

Inflation Remains The One Plus

Consumer prices, meanwhile, inched up only 0.1 percent in May. Lower food costs and the first drop in drug prices in nearly 20 years helped offset higher gasoline prices over the month. It was the best showing for the Consumer Price Index since January, which helped reassure policymakers that inflation indeed remains under control. Within two weeks of the release of the data, the Federal Reserve acted again to lower interest rates in an effort to accelerate the economy.

Prepared by Dennis Fusco, Chief Economist

Consumer Price Index

(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984 = 100)

	Indexes			% Change From	
U.S. City Average	May 92	Apr 92	May 91	Apr 92	May 91
	139.7	139.5	135.6	0.1%	3.0%
Seattle†	Jul-Dec 1991	Jan-Jun 1991	Jul-Dec 1990	Jan-Jun 1991	Jul-Dec 1990
	135.2	133.0	129.4	1.7%	4.5%

†The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties.
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work[1]

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted					Numeric Change	
Industry	May 1992 (Prel)	Apr 1992 (Rev)	May 1991 (Rev)	Apr 1991 (Rev)	Apr 1992 to May 1992	May 1991 to May 1992
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	2,197.4	2,180.4	2,178.9	2,149.5	17.0	18.5
Manufacturing	345.2	344.6	350.2	347.5	0.6	-5.0
Durable Goods	244.5	244.6	251.3	249.8	-0.1	-6.8
Lumber & Wood Products	36.3	35.8	36.7	35.5	0.5	-0.4
Logging	8.6	8.5	8.9	8.1	0.1	-0.3
Sawmills & Plywood	24.3	24.1	24.2	24.0	0.2	0.1
Furniture & Fixtures	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.7	0.1	0.0
Stone, Clay & Glass	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.5	0.1	0.0
Primary Metals	11.7	11.7	12.4	12.4	0.0	-0.7
Aluminum	8.3	8.4	8.9	8.9	-0.1	-0.6
Fabricated Metals	11.6	11.5	12.0	11.7	0.1	-0.4
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	18.9	18.9	19.8	19.9	0.0	-0.9
Computer & Office Equipment	6.1	6.1	6.6	6.5	0.0	-0.5
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.1	0.0	0.0
Transportation Equipment	123.1	124.1	127.7	127.9	-1.0	-4.6
Aircraft & Parts	111.6	112.4	114.9	114.9	-0.8	-3.3
Instruments & Related	13.4	13.4	13.7	13.7	0.0	-0.3
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6.9	6.8	6.4	6.4	0.1	0.5
Nondurable Goods[2]	100.7	100.0	98.9	97.7	0.7	1.8
Food & Kindred Products	37.9	37.4	36.9	36.0	0.5	1.0
Preserved Fruits & Vegetables	13.9	13.5	13.2	12.3	0.4	0.7
Textiles, Apparel & Leather	8.6	8.5	7.9	7.7	0.1	0.7
Paper & Allied Products	17.4	17.7	17.7	17.7	-0.3	-0.3
Printing & Publishing	22.4	22.3	22.5	22.4	0.1	-0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products[3]	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.2	0.1	0.4
Petroleum, Coal, Plastics	8.8	8.6	8.7	8.7	0.2	0.1
Mining & Quarrying	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	0.0	0.1
Construction	117.9	114.1	117.7	113.4	3.8	0.2
General Building Contractors	35.3	34.2	35.1	33.5	1.1	0.2
Heavy Construction, except Buildings	17.6	16.4	17.3	16.2	1.2	0.3
Special Trade Contractors	65.0	63.4	65.3	63.7	1.6	-0.3
Transportation, Communications & Utilities	112.4	111.9	110.7	109.5	0.5	1.7
Transportation	77.7	77.1	75.8	74.6	0.6	1.9
Trucking & Warehousing	30.3	30.0	29.0	28.8	0.3	1.3
Water Transportation	10.0	10.1	9.7	9.3	-0.1	0.3
Transportation by Air	16.0	15.9	15.5	15.3	0.1	0.5
Communications	24.4	24.5	24.9	24.9	-0.1	-0.5
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	10.3	10.3	10.0	10.0	0.0	0.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	522.7	518.1	524.9	516.1	4.6	-2.2
Wholesale Trade	128.8	128.2	129.4	128.3	0.6	-0.6
Retail Trade	393.9	389.9	395.5	387.8	4.0	-1.6
General Merchandise	35.8	36.2	37.5	37.3	-0.4	-1.7
Food Stores	65.1	64.5	63.2	61.8	0.6	1.9
Eating & Drinking	146.6	143.3	146.0	142.3	3.3	0.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	115.0	115.4	116.6	115.8	-0.4	-1.6
Finance	50.5	50.7	50.9	50.8	-0.2	-0.4
Services	548.0	546.5	534.6	528.3	1.5	13.4
Hotels & Lodging	27.5	26.5	26.4	24.9	1.0	1.1
Personal Services	20.7	21.0	21.5	21.8	-0.3	-0.8
Business Services	85.1	84.9	83.6	81.8	0.2	1.5
Health Services	161.2	160.6	154.6	153.4	0.6	6.6
Educational Services	25.7	25.9	24.9	25.1	-0.2	0.8
Social Services[3]	41.7	41.8	39.7	39.1	-0.1	2.0
Eng. & Management Services[3]	56.9	57.2	55.3	55.6	-0.3	1.6
Government	432.4	426.0	420.5	415.2	6.4	11.9
Federal	73.5	72.7	72.5	71.9	0.8	1.0
State	124.5	124.7	122.6	122.7	-0.2	1.9
State Education	65.4	65.8	64.2	64.7	-0.4	1.2
Local	234.4	228.6	225.4	220.6	5.8	9.0
Local Education	124.4	123.8	120.4	120.2	0.6	4.0
Workers in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

[1]Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

[2]Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.

[3]Data not comparable with previous years because of end-of-year industry code changes.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

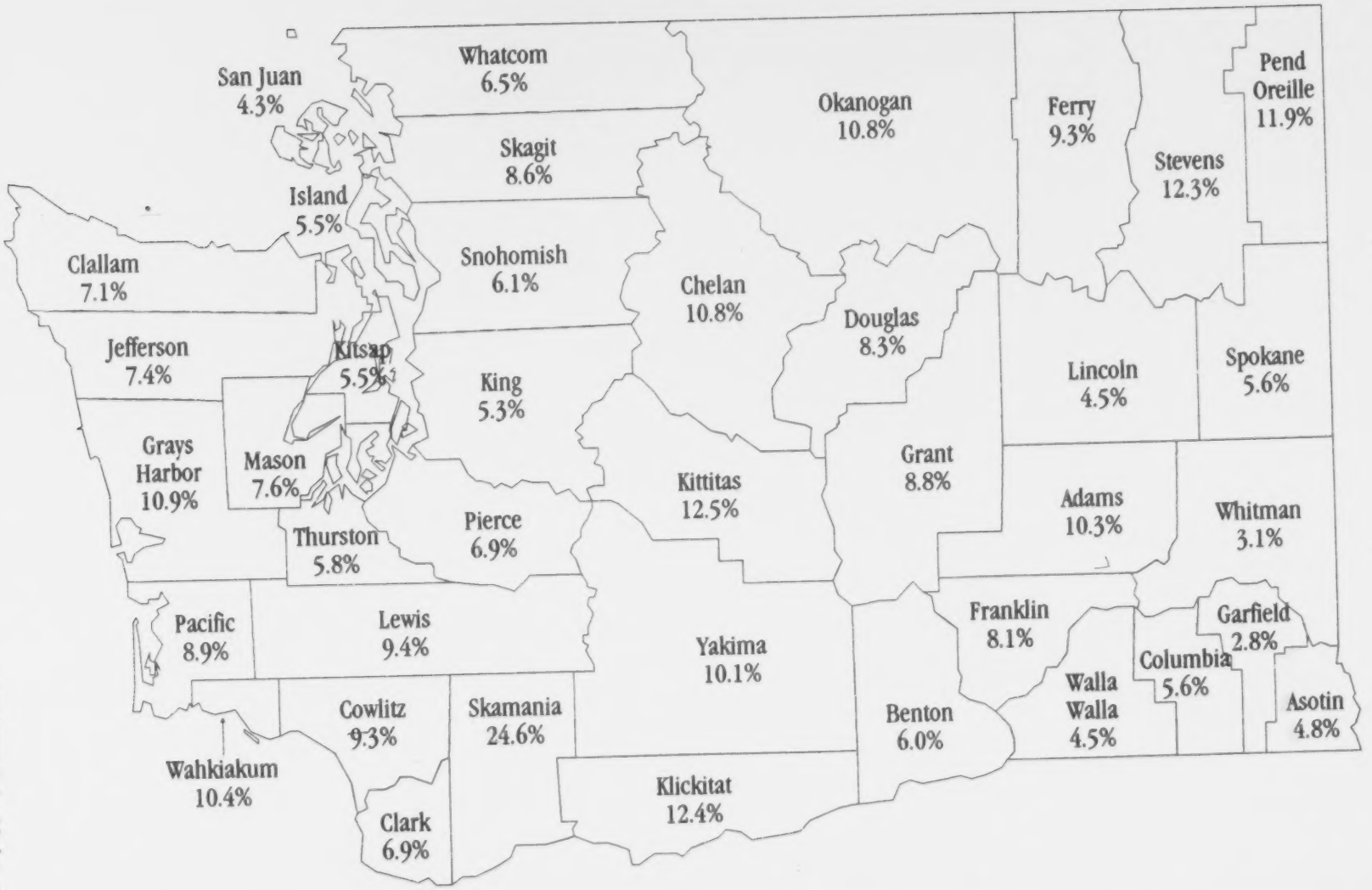
Resident Labor Force and Employment in Washington State and Labor Market Areas

Date: 6/30/92
Benchmark: 1991

Not Seasonally Adjusted	May 1992 Preliminary†				April 1992 Revised†				May 1991 Revised†			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Washington State Total	2,620,100	2,450,700	169,400	6.5	2,599,900	2,420,400	179,500	6.9	2,486,800	2,340,700	146,100	5.9
Bellingham MSA	73,400	68,600	4,800	6.5	73,000	67,800	5,200	7.1	69,300	65,300	4,000	5.8
Bremerton MSA	89,200	84,300	4,900	5.5	88,500	83,300	5,200	5.9	82,700	78,700	4,000	4.8
Olympia MSA	91,100	85,800	5,300	5.8	90,600	84,900	5,700	6.3	83,600	79,000	4,600	5.5
Seattle PMSA	1,155,600	1,092,500	63,100	5.5	1,148,900	1,084,300	64,600	5.6	1,110,100	1,058,900	51,200	4.6
King County ‡	911,200	863,100	48,100	5.3	905,800	856,700	49,100	5.4	875,800	836,700	39,100	4.5
Snohomish County ‡	244,300	229,300	15,000	6.1	243,100	227,600	15,500	6.4	234,300	222,300	12,000	5.1
Spokane MSA	184,300	173,900	10,400	5.6	182,900	171,700	11,200	6.1	172,800	163,200	9,600	5.6
Tacoma PMSA	266,900	248,500	18,400	6.9	266,800	247,600	19,200	7.2	252,800	237,000	15,800	6.3
Tri-Cities MSA	83,800	78,400	5,400	6.4	81,600	75,900	5,700	7.0	77,500	72,500	5,000	6.5
Benton County ‡	65,200	61,300	3,900	6.0	63,200	59,400	3,800	6.0	60,300	56,800	3,500	5.8
Franklin County ‡	18,500	17,000	1,500	8.1	18,400	16,500	1,900	10.3	17,300	15,800	1,500	8.7
Vancouver PMSA	133,600	124,400	9,200	6.9	132,400	122,700	9,700	7.3	125,900	117,700	8,200	6.5
Yakima MSA	105,900	95,200	10,700	10.1	103,700	91,300	12,400	12.0	99,100	88,600	10,500	10.6
Adams	7,930	7,110	820	10.3	7,840	6,950	890	11.4	7,400	6,710	690	9.3
Asotin	10,180	9,690	490	4.8	9,910	9,460	450	4.5	9,220	8,780	440	4.8
Clallam	25,730	23,900	1,830	7.1	25,480	23,290	2,190	8.6	24,280	22,540	1,740	7.2
Columbia	2,340	2,210	130	5.6	2,580	2,370	210	8.1	2,110	1,960	150	7.1
Cowlitz	39,720	36,030	3,690	9.3	39,800	35,840	3,960	9.9	39,800	36,880	2,920	7.3
Ferry	3,330	3,020	310	9.3	3,250	2,830	420	12.9	3,220	2,920	300	9.3
Garfield	1,060	1,030	30	2.8	1,040	1,000	40	3.8	1,000	970	30	3.0
Grant	31,020	28,300	2,720	8.8	29,930	27,000	2,930	9.8	29,160	26,370	2,790	9.6
Grays Harbor	27,060	24,120	2,940	10.9	26,830	23,740	3,090	11.5	26,710	24,050	2,660	10.0
Island	23,700	22,390	1,310	5.5	23,290	22,070	1,220	5.2	22,470	21,480	990	4.4
Jefferson	9,550	8,840	710	7.4	9,220	8,490	730	7.9	8,930	8,500	430	4.8
Kittitas	13,610	11,910	1,700	12.5	13,670	11,740	1,930	14.1	12,420	11,190	1,230	9.9
Klickitat	8,340	7,310	1,030	12.4	8,180	7,010	1,170	14.3	7,780	6,800	980	12.6
Lewis	26,920	24,390	2,530	9.4	26,970	24,230	2,740	10.2	25,580	23,270	2,310	9.0
Lincoln	4,400	4,200	200	4.5	4,300	4,090	210	4.9	4,340	4,140	200	4.6
Mason	15,600	14,410	1,190	7.6	15,670	14,340	1,330	8.5	14,060	12,910	1,150	8.2
Okanogan	18,720	16,700	2,020	10.8	18,030	15,810	2,220	12.3	17,430	15,470	1,960	11.2
Pacific	8,610	7,840	770	8.9	8,690	7,910	780	9.0	7,650	6,960	690	9.0
Pend Oreille	3,600	3,170	430	11.9	3,490	3,010	480	13.8	3,270	2,890	380	11.6
San Juan	7,240	6,930	310	4.3	6,690	6,340	350	5.2	6,690	6,510	180	2.7
Skagit	43,350	39,620	3,730	8.6	43,140	39,170	3,970	9.2	40,150	36,990	3,160	7.9
Skamania	2,320	1,750	570	24.6	2,390	1,730	660	27.6	2,290	1,890	400	17.5
Stevens	12,430	10,900	1,530	12.3	12,200	10,470	1,730	14.2	11,850	10,660	1,190	10.0
Wahkiakum	1,250	1,120	130	10.4	1,230	1,110	120	9.8	1,160	1,080	80	6.9
Walla Walla	24,530	23,430	1,100	4.5	24,140	22,760	1,380	5.7	23,310	22,110	1,200	5.1
Wenatchee Labor Area	44,350	39,920	4,430	10.0	43,780	38,810	4,970	11.4	41,830	37,200	4,630	11.1
Chelan County ‡	29,660	26,460	3,200	10.8	29,370	25,730	3,640	12.4	28,050	24,660	3,390	12.1
Douglas County ‡	14,670	13,450	1,220	8.3	14,420	13,080	1,340	9.3	13,780	12,540	1,240	9.0
Whitman	19,620	19,020	600	3.1	19,880	19,370	510	2.6	18,930	18,500	430	2.3

†Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. ‡Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

May 1992 Unemployment Rates
State of Washington = 6.5%



Estimated Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing and of Nonsupervisory Workers in Nonmanufacturing Activities, Washington State

	Preliminary May Production Workers & Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		May 92	Apr 92	May 91	May 92	Apr 92	May 91	May 92	Apr 92	May 91
Total Manufacturing Industries†	204,688	$544.31	$534.62	$537.20	40.2	39.7	40.3	$13.54	$13.47	$13.33
Selected Manufacturing Industries										
Lumber and Wood Products	29,890	$477.96	$481.60	$463.27	40.3	40.2	39.8	$11.86	$11.98	$11.64
Primary Metal Industries	9,163	$583.63	$593.39	$582.00	42.2	41.7	42.7	$13.83	$14.23	$13.63
Fabricated Metal Products	9,280	$562.30	$543.84	$528.29	41.9	41.2	40.7	$13.42	$13.20	$12.98
Machinery	18,695	$445.76	$439.24	$429.44	39.8	39.5	39.8	$11.20	$11.12	$10.79
Food and Kindred Products	27,580	$417.50	$400.22	$384.12	39.8	37.9	39.6	$10.49	$10.56	$9.70
Chemical and Allied Products	3,124	$620.22	$611.86	$624.73	40.3	39.5	41.9	$15.39	$15.49	$14.91
Transportation Equipment	52,124	$708.47	$705.93	$681.44	40.6	40.9	41.4	$17.45	$17.26	$16.46
Selected Nonmanufacturing Industries										
Construction	89,897	$702.04	$666.85	$675.11	38.3	36.6	37.8	$18.33	$18.22	$17.86
Wholesale and Retail Trade (Includes eating and drinking establishments)	459,278	$299.21	$300.20	$256.08	31.2	31.5	29.2	$9.59	$9.53	$8.77

†Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

Washington State
Employment Security
Labor Market and
Economic Analysis Branch
Mail Stop 6000
P.O. Box 9046
Olympia, WA 98507-9046

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty For Private Use $300

WLM

☐ If you no longer wish to receive this publication, please check here and return this cover to the above address.

If your address has changed, please indicate new address below and return this cover to the above address.

_____

_____

_____

U.S.MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB-449

CONGRESSIONAL INFO SERVICE
SRI
4520 EAST WEST HIWY
BETHESDA MD 20814